

# CORE COURSES

A 3.0 average must be maintained for all courses taken. A maximum of two C's are permitted during your entire residency.

Of the 48 credits needed for graduation, the following core classes are required. If you pursue a Master's Project, 30 credits are part of the core requirements. If you pursue a Master's Thesis, 33 credits are part of the core curriculum. The Concentration selected by each student requires an additional 9 credits.

RP620 Quantitative Methods in Planning (3 credits)

RP625 Geographic Information Systems (3 credits)

RP630 Public Participation (3 credits)

RP635 Research Issues (3 credits)

RP651 Planning History and Theory (3 credits)

RP656 Judicial Planning Law (3 credits)

RP675 Regional Planning Studio (6 credits)

Either:

RP 698A Master's Project (6 credits) or

RP 699 Master's Thesis (9 credits) or

3 Course Option: Elective Studios + Elective Seminars

## Course Waivers

Students are allowed to waive required courses if they can demonstrate equivalency in terms of previous course work or experience. This process requires the completion of a course waiver form, available from the graduate program secretary. This form must be approved first by the faculty member whose course is to be waived, then by the program director. In general, if 80% or more of the course material has been covered, a waiver is granted. If 50-80% of the course material has been taken then instructor may negotiate an appropriate instructional arrangement (e.g. audit, independent study). If less than 50% of the material has been covered, then the waiver is not granted. It should be noted that a course waiver does not reduce the total number of credits required for a degree but rather affords the student more flexibility in pursuing areas of interest.

# RECOMMENDED COURSE SEQUENCE

## 2-Year Program

First Year			
Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
RP 620 Quantitative Methods in Planning	3	RP 656 Planning Law	3
RP 630 Public Participation	3	RP 635 Research Issues	3
RP 651 Planning History & Theory	3	RP 625 GIS	3
Core Concentration Class	3	Core Concentration Class	3
Total Credits	12	Total Credits	12

Second Year			
Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
RP 675 Planning Studio	6	RP 699 Master Research Thesis <i>or</i>	9
Core Elective	3	RP 698 Master Professional Project <i>or</i>	6
Elective	3	3 Course Option: Elective studios+elective seminars	9
		Core Elective if needed	3-6
Total Credits	12	Total Credits	12

## Regional Planning Studio

An important part of your planning education is participation in a regional planning studio. In the studio, students divide into teams of 3-5 and work on a real project with an actual client. The objective is to provide a setting in which you can learn the professional skills required in the planning process. Through the studio, you will gain knowledge and expertise in the processes of planning, including how to comprehend a planning problem, quantify and analyze its dimensions, formulate planning alternatives, and organize a work plan and planning process that leads to the implementation of solutions. You will also gain experience in working with the client and the public, and in the presentation of work in oral, written and graphic form.

The studio format has the following features:

1. A 6-credit, 14-week studio (fall semester of the second year).
2. Instruction by faculty and outside professionals on key topics needed to carry out studio projects, including work planning, public presentations and report preparation.
3. Community-based projects and clients, including the signing of a contract between client and studio group that sets out a 'scope of services'.
4. In the first half of the semester, studio tasks involve data collection, analysis, and development of plan alternatives. In the second half, tasks involve primarily plan development, public participation, and plan implementation.